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Cc:

From: CN=Karen Schwinn/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US

Sent: Thur 4/26/2012 9:25:38 PM Subject: Fw: Bay-Delta update

EPAcommentsWQCPscoping.Ap2012.pdf

BDCP.nepa.docx

just fyi

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----- Forwarded by Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US on 04/26/2012 02:25 PM -----

From: Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US

To: Jared Blumenfeld/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

Cc: Nancy Woo/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, ryerson.epa@epa.gov, Alexis Strauss/R9/USEPA/US@EPA

04/26/2012 02:20 PM Subject: Bay-Delta update

Jared -

I sent two Delta-related comment letters this week. I don't expect either to generate controversy; they are both fairly general and we don't say anything surprising.

1 - Scoping Comments to the State Water Board as they begin their review of the Delta Outflow (x2) standard.

We said:

- -their work is urgently needed and important for BDCP success;
- -new standards should include performance measures and goals, plus monitoring of the effectiveness of standards (not just compliance monitoring);
- -standards should protect species year-round; and
- -standards should reflect natural hydrological variability.

We will speak at the Board's Workshop on May 16 to elaborate.

2 - early NEPA Comments to BOR, FWS, NOAA and DWR on first administrative draft of BDCP DEIR/S.

We have never commented on a NEPA document this early in the process but since the lead agencies have a very expedited NEPA schedule, we are trying to be helpful by identifying issues early. We mostly say either critical pieces are missing or are difficult to follow given the size of the document, and that there are conclusions (about water quality impacts, for example) without supporting analysis. They currently plan to issuer the DEIR/S this summer though I expect they will soon realize this is unrealistic.

When your meeting with Jerry Meral is scheduled, I will elaborate on the issues you might discuss with him.

p.s. Bruce did the technical work on the first letter; Stephanie Skophammer (of ERO), with Erin, is responsible for 2nd letter. And of course Tom added value to both.